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June 21th, 2017

Mr. Randy Fiorini, Chair
Delta Stewardship Council
980 9th Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Draft Proposed Delta Plan Amendments for Conveyance, Storage and Operations

Dear Chair Fiorini:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC), I support the goals of providing a reliable water supply for California and restoring the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta through your proposal to amend the Delta Plan for improved conveyance, storage and water supply operations.

The Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) and its over 450 members have been impacting the Los Angeles business landscape for over 70 years. The LABC provides its members with strong conduits to local, state and federal officials through targeted policy recommendations, key issue briefings and annual summits. We strive to educate and advocate on sustainability, workforce housing, transportation, job creation and business development.

The Delta Plan provides key guidance to local state and federal agencies and helps to coordinate their many actions related to water management. Particularly important are those actions that must be reviewed by the Delta Stewardship Council to ensure that they are consistent with the overall Delta Plan, such as a modernization of the existing water plan through the state-federal proposal known as California WaterFix.

The draft plan amendments before you acknowledge that the status quo in the Delta is unacceptable for both the Delta environment and the California economy. We agree with this assessment and the guidance to modernize the system by constructing new water intakes in a manner that protects the Delta as an evolving place. Amending the Delta Plan in this manner will provide important and balanced direction. We encourage you to initiate the necessary environmental review process to formally amend your draft into the Delta Plan.

California needs a reliable guide to safely secure a potable water supply and ensure that we do not negatively impact our natural environment in doing so. These proposed amendments will ameliorate the Delta Plan to better protect the Delta and safeguard the critical supply of water that it provides to Los Angeles and to the entire Southern California region.

Thank you,

Mary Leslie
President, LABC